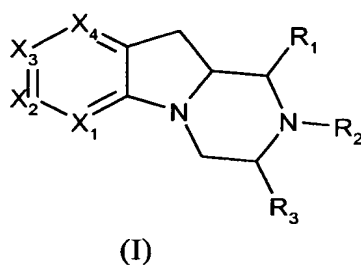


**Amendments to the Claims:**

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a chemical compound of formula (I):



wherein:

R<sub>1</sub> to R<sub>3</sub> are independently selected from hydrogen and lower alkyl;

X<sub>1</sub> is C-R<sub>4</sub>;

X<sub>2</sub> is C-R<sub>5</sub>;

X<sub>3</sub> is C-R<sub>6</sub>;

X<sub>4</sub> is C-R<sub>7</sub>;

R<sub>4</sub>, R<sub>5</sub> and R<sub>7</sub> are independently selected from hydrogen, halogen, ~~hydroxy~~, alkyl, ~~aryl~~, ~~alkoxy~~, ~~aryloxy~~, ~~alkoyl~~, ~~aryloyl~~, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy and alkylthio; ~~[[,]]~~ ~~arylthio~~, ~~alkylsulfoxyl~~, ~~arylsulfoxyl~~, ~~alkylsulfonyl~~, ~~arylsulfonyl~~, ~~amino~~, ~~alkylamino~~, ~~dialkylamino~~, ~~nitro~~, ~~cyano~~, ~~carboalkoxy~~, ~~carboaryloxy~~ and ~~carboxy~~; and

R<sub>6</sub> is selected from hydrogen, halogen, alkyl, ~~aryl~~, ~~aryloxy~~, haloalkyl and alkylthio, ~~arylthio~~, ~~alkylsulfoxyl~~, ~~arylsulfoxyl~~, ~~alkylsulfonyl~~, ~~arylsulfonyl~~, ~~amino~~, ~~alkylamino~~, ~~dialkylamino~~ and ~~cyano~~;

with the proviso that R<sub>4</sub> to R<sub>7</sub> are not all selected as hydrogen,

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, or addition compound thereof; in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient.

2. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein R<sub>1</sub> is selected from hydrogen and methyl.

3. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein R<sub>2</sub> is hydrogen.

4. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein R<sub>3</sub> is selected from hydrogen and methyl.

5 - 8. (Cancelled)

9. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein two of R<sub>4</sub>, R<sub>5</sub>, R<sub>6</sub> and R<sub>7</sub> are hydrogen.

10. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 9, wherein R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>6</sub> are hydrogen.

11. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein two of R<sub>4</sub>, R<sub>5</sub>, R<sub>6</sub> and R<sub>7</sub> are independently selected from hydrogen, chlorine, fluorine, trifluoromethyl and bromine.

12. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein three of R<sub>4</sub>, R<sub>5</sub>, R<sub>6</sub> and R<sub>7</sub> are hydrogen.

13. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 12, wherein R<sub>4</sub>, R<sub>6</sub> and R<sub>7</sub> are hydrogen.

14. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein R<sub>4</sub> is hydrogen.

15. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein R<sub>5</sub> is halogen.

16. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein R<sub>6</sub> is hydrogen.

17. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein R<sub>7</sub> is halogen.

18. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 wherein the compound of formula (I) ~~which~~ is selected from:

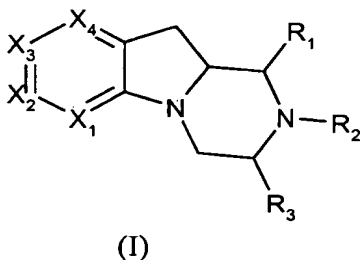
(*RS*) 7-chloro-1,2,3,4,10,10a-hexahydropyrazino[1,2-*a*]indole,  
(*R5*) 9-chloro-1,2,3,4,10,10a-hexahydropyrazino[1,2-*a*]indole,  
(*RS*) 7-chloro-8-methyl-1,2,3,4,10,10a-hexahydropyrazino[1,2-*a*]indole,  
(10a*R*) 7-chloro-1,2,3,4,10,10a-hexahydropyrazino[1,2-*a*]indole,  
(*RS*) 7-bromo-1,2,3,4,10,10a-hexahydropyrazino[1,2-*a*]indole,  
(3*S*, 10a*R*) 8-chloro-2-methyl-1,2,3,4,10,10a-hexahydropyrazino[1,2-*a*]indole,  
(10a*R*) 8-chloro-1,2,3,4,10,10a-hexahydropyrazino[1,2-*a*]indole and  
(3*S*, 10a*R*) 8-chloro-2-methyl-1,2,3,4,10,10a-hexahydropyrazino[1,2-*a*]indole.

19 – 28. (Cancelled)

29. (Previously Presented) A method of treatment of obesity, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment an effective dose of a compound of formula (I) as set out in claim 1.

30 – 33. (Cancelled)

34. (Currently Amended) A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (I): ~~according to claim 1,~~



wherein:

R<sub>1</sub> to R<sub>3</sub> are independently selected from hydrogen and lower alkyl;

X<sub>1</sub> is C-R<sub>4</sub>;

X<sub>2</sub> is C-R<sub>5</sub>;

X<sub>3</sub> is C-R<sub>6</sub>;

X<sub>4</sub> is C-R<sub>7</sub>;

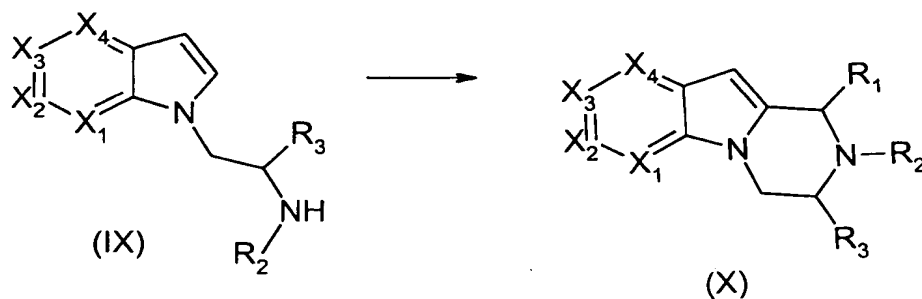
R<sub>4</sub>, R<sub>5</sub> and R<sub>7</sub> are independently selected from hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, alkyl, aryl, alkoxy, aryloxy, alkoyl, aryloyl, alkylthio, arylthio, alkylsulfoxyl, arylsulfoxyl, alkylsulfonyl, arylsulfonyl, amino, alkylamino, dialkylamino, nitro, cyano, carboalkoxy, carboaryloxy and carboxy; and

R<sub>6</sub> is selected from hydrogen, halogen, alkyl, aryl, aryloxy, alkylthio, arylthio, alkylsulfoxyl, arylsulfoxyl, alkylsulfonyl, arylsulfonyl, amino, alkylamino, dialkylamino and cyano;

with the proviso that R<sub>4</sub> to R<sub>7</sub> are not all selected as hydrogen,

said process comprising the steps of:

(i) treating a compound of formula (IX) with an aldehyde of formula R, CHO and then exposing to acid to obtain a compound of formula (X), wherein X<sub>1</sub>, X<sub>2</sub>, X<sub>3</sub>, X<sub>4</sub>, R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> are as described in claim 1, and



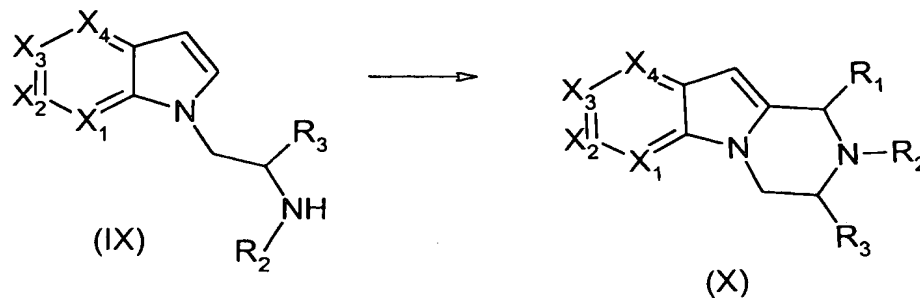
(ii) reduction of a compound of formula (X).

35. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 34 with the proviso that where R<sub>1</sub> to R<sub>3</sub> and three of R<sub>4</sub> to R<sub>7</sub> are selected from hydrogen, the remaining R<sub>4</sub> to R<sub>7</sub> is not selected from methoxy.

36. (Previously Presented) A process for the preparation of a compound according to claim 1,

said process comprising the steps of:

(i) treating a compound of formula (IX) with an aldehyde of formula R, CHO and then exposing to acid to obtain a compound of formula (X), wherein  $X_1$ ,  $X_2$ ,  $X_3$ ,  $X_4$ ,  $R_2$  and  $R_3$  are as described in claim 1, and



(ii) reduction of a compound of formula (X).